

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Schaller, et al.

Examiner: Nguyen, Tuan Van

Serial No.: 10/672,009

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filing Date: September 26, 2003

Docket No.: P0022022.00

Title: SURGICAL CONNECTION APPARATUS AND METHODS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with C.F.R. §§ 1.97 *et. seq.*, the materials enclosed herewith are brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being of interest in connection with the above-identified patent application.

Consideration of each of the documents listed on the attached Form 1449 is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. §609, Applicant further requests that a copy of the Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next Official Communication.

The filing of this supplemental information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Applicants assert that nothing herein is intended to be construed as an admission as to whether a document constitutes prior art to the present application. Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.31-1.132, or otherwise, to establish that the document(s) are not "prior art."

Please charge the \$180.00 fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(p) for the submission of this supplemental information disclosure statement to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Sept. 10, 2009

By Katrina A. Witschen

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